IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

NOMURA et al.

Atty. Ref.: 1035-332

Serial No. Unknown

Group:

Filed: June 28, 2001

Examiner:

For: A METHOD AND A SYSTEM FOR SUPPLYING PROGRAMS

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June 28, 2001

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

In order to place the above-identified application in better condition for examination, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please substitute the following amended claim 25 for corresponding claim 25 previously presented. A copy of the amended claims showing current revisions is attached.

and

25. {ONCE AMENDED} A program transmitting receiving system, comprising: a program supply system comprising:

server-side operation judging means for confirming an operation state of the program in the user system; and

accounting means for asking a user to pay for the program after confirming the operation of the program;

a program receiving apparatus comprising:

user-side operation judging means for confirming operation of the program;

operation confirmation notification transmitting means for transmitting a notification of operation confirmation to the server so as to allow the server to confirm an operation state of the program; and

wherein the program supply system and the program receiving apparatus are connected to each other via a network.

REMARKS

The above amendments are made to place the claims in a more traditional format.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version With Markings To Show Changes Made."

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Respectfully submitted,

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<u>and</u>

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

25. {ONCE AMENDED} A program transmitting receiving system, comprising: a program supply system [of claim 22] comprising:

server-side operation judging means for confirming an operation state of the program in the user system; and

accounting means for asking a user to pay for the program after confirming the operation of the program; [and the]

a program receiving apparatus [of claim 24 which] comprising:

user-side operation judging means for confirming operation of the program;

operation confirmation notification transmitting means for transmitting a notification of operation confirmation to the server so as to allow the server to confirm an operation state of the program; and

wherein the program supply system and the program receiving apparatus are connected to each other via <u>a</u> [the] network.